

SECRET/NOFORN

PROJECT SUN STREAK

WARNING NOTICE: INTELLIGENCE SOURCES AND METHODS INVOLVED

PROJECT NUMBER: 8808

SESSION NUMBER: 17

DATE OF SESSION: 6 JUL 88

DATE OF REPORT: 7 JUL 88

START: 1450

END: 1545

METHODOLOGY: WRV

VIEWER IDENTIFIER: 079

1. (S/NF/SK) MISSION: Determine the projected date and describe the circumstances related to the release of USMC LTC Higgins, the other eight US hostages, Rudolf Cordes (West German national), and Terry Waite. Update weekly findings.
2. (S/NF/SK) VIEWER TASKING: Update findings in view of recent events, ie, the downing of the Iranian Jet bus by the Vincennes on 4 Jul 88, the ongoing trial of Mohammed Ali Hamadei in West Germany, and recent Lebanese broadcasts with threats of retaliatory assassinations of Edward Tracy, Joseph Cicippio and Terry Anderson.
3. (S/NF/SK) COMMENTS: No Inclemencies noted. A Summary of Information is attached as Enclosure 1.
4. (S/NF/SK): EVALUATION:

HANDLE VIA SKEET CHANNELS ONLY

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CLASSIFIED BY: DIA (DT)

DECLASSIFY: OADR

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SECRET

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SUMMARY OF INFORMATION

USMC LTC William (Rich) Higgins is currently located in the area bonded by Anan and two reservoirs located immediately north of Hill 1006. See copy of map at ENCLOSURE 2. Higgins is in better physical and mental shape than he has ever been since the beginning of his captivity. He is treated as well as can be expected under the circumstances, and more importantly, he has a "better handle" on the thought processes of his captors. The captors remain tired and drained from this episode. They are somewhat disgruntled with instructions being received from Iran. They have an attitude of, "Easy for you (Iran) to say." The captors are taking advantage of the reigning confusion in an effort to move Higgins from the reservoir area to the Beirut International Airport. They will soon be in Syrian held territory. See ENCLOSURE 2 (map) that reflects the ultimate destination as being 15 miles northwest of the reservoir area. The implementation Israeli Voice Intercept/Direction Finding procedures can allow for a determination of Higgins location during his journey north. If he is intercepted his release will be accomplished easily and quickly; the captors are subconsciously weary of this burden. Higgins will initially be transported by truck described as an old "very dark brown, almost black" truck with a state-body. Assorted junk such as boxes rags and assorted old lumber will be piled around him. Two of the captors will be in the cab; at least three of the other captors

Enclosure 2

will be riding in the back of the truck. Prior to reaching his destination, Higgins will then be transferred to a blue automobile bearing a license plate of white background with the letter "Z" in black. If Higgins is not released in the immediate future (as a result of some intervention or escape) his release as well the release of the other hostages will be subject to negotiations; under such conditions, the release of the hostages could take as long as six weeks, or sooner. Either Rudolf Cordes LTC Higgins will be the first to reach freedom.

Terry Waite and Terry Anderson have been kept together or in close proximity of one another from some time. Terry Anderson and Terry Waite are being held in the "Beqa Valley". Special efforts have been made to disperse the locations of the US hostages who are being held in small groups of two or three. Two US hostages believed to be Steen and a second hostage (Cicippio previously reported as being with Steen) are being held "underground" in an area 5 to 17 (?) miles south of the military barracks. (Viewer is unaware of the location of the military barracks in questions). One of these two hostages is wearing "funny shoes" described as black and with some sort of silver tongue-backing to the shoe. (Second time this quaint detail has been reported.)

Contrary to all appearances none of the recent incidents (the trial of Hamaedi in West Germany, the shooting down of the Iranian Jet Bus on 4 July 1988, or broadcasted threats of retribution through assassination) will have an effect on the hostages except to delay their release by six weeks or sooner.

The key to the release of the hostages are related to ongoing negotiations. The Iranians desire military and military related hardware from the US. An ongoing "drought" in Lebanon serves as a basis for "water" (?) and food deals. The Syrians also play an important part in the implementation of the results of the negotiations. A German national identified simply as "Werner" (phonetic) is responsible for negotiating on behalf of the West Germans. Attempts to surface other identifiable names revealed the phonetic name of a possible German University as "Strayer" (phonetic) and a German organization as "German National Democratic League". The governments of West Germany, Finland, and Great Britain are representing US negotiating positions. Terry Waite is still negotiating from within. He remains scheduled as foreseeably one of the last hostages to be released. The very last to be released remains Terry Anderson; and he shall follow on the heels of the release of Terry Waite. There was a "less assured" perception that one or two US hostages could be among the thirteen being held in the military barracks. [The issue of the presence of US hostages in Iran will be addressed at the next opportunity].

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